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Feb 23, 2021

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The Ohio House of Representatives
House Families, Aging and Human Services Committee
Representative Susan Manchester, Chair

Re: Statement of Support for HOUSE BILL 92

Chairwoman Manchester, Vice Chair Cutrona, Ranking Member Liston, and Members of the House Families, Aging and Human Services Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 92, which would require public children services agencies to report child abuse or neglect in military families to the appropriate military authorities.

I am a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati and Director of the Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. The Mayerson Center evaluates and reports nearly 2,000 suspected incidents of child abuse in Southwest Ohio every year.

The best practice in child abuse evaluations requires a multi-disciplinary investigation of social service agencies, law enforcement and medical experts. If suspected child abuse involves a military family, the military authorities should be informed and included in the investigation. Therefore, Cincinnati Children's Hospital supports House Bill 92 to best protect military families.

Sincerely,



Robert Allan Shapiro, MD, FAAP
Director, Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children
Cincinnati Children's Hospital
Professor of Pediatrics
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine



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ALLIANCE[®]

ACCREDITED
MEMBER